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Programme and Budget Committee

Fifteenth session
Vienna, 14-16 April 1999
Item 3 (b) of the provisional agenda

COST-SHARING ISSUES WITH VIC-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Report by the Director-General

Discusses developments with respect to consultations with other VIC-based organizations on the issues of buildings management and support to the Vienna chapter of the Group of 77 and China, in compliance with conclusion 98/4 of the Programme and Budget Committee.

Abbreviations

CTBTO	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
UNOV	United Nations Office at Vienna
VIC	Vienna International Centre

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Introduction

1. The transfer of responsibility for buildings management to another VIC-based organization and support to the Vienna chapter of the Group of 77 and China were among the adjustments to the programme and budgets, 1998-1999, proposed by the Director-General to the fourteenth session of the Programme and Budget Committee (IDB.20/7-PBC.14/6). In its conclusion 98/4, paragraph (b), the Committee encouraged the Director-General to continue his consultations with the other VIC-based organizations to find a solution to the issue of buildings management and the Group of 77 Vienna chapter office, and to present concrete proposals to the Board at its twenty-first session. The present document outlines the developments in this area since the conclusion of the fourteenth session of the Committee.

I. BUILDINGS MANAGEMENT

2. As reported to the Board at its twentieth session (IDB.20/18), discussions with other agencies, including those in the Consultative Committee on Common Services, to transfer the responsibility for buildings management have not been fruitful. The measures planned by the Director-General are outlined in paragraph 3 of document IDB.20/18. As noted in paragraph 3 (c) of that document, buildings management is presented as a separate major programme in the proposed programme and budgets for 2000-2001 (PBC.15/7-IDB.21/7, Major Programme G).

II. SUPPORT TO THE GROUP OF 77

3. In compliance with PBC conclusion 98/4, letters were sent to the executive heads of IAEA, CTBTO and UNOV on 16 November 1998 seeking support for a cost-sharing arrangement for the G-77 Vienna chapter office. Subsequently, CTBTO and IAEA expressed agreement in principle to a cost-sharing arrangement. The issue was also raised in a meeting of executive heads of VIC-based organizations on 20 January. As a result, an initial cost-sharing proposal was communicated to IAEA, CTBTO and UNOV on 16 February 1999.

III. ACTION REQUIRED OF THE COMMITTEE

4. The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in the present document, as submitted in compliance with conclusion 98/4, and make appropriate recommendations to the Industrial Development Board.